

The Sun.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1882.

Amusements To-Day.
 Booth's Theatre—The Merry Widow.
 Upton Theatre—The Merry Widow.
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The people of Ohio yesterday elected twenty-one Congressmen and a Secretary of State and Supreme Judge. In several of the Congressional districts, besides the candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties, there were Greenback and Prohibition candidates; and for the State offices also there were candidates of all these four parties. In the Republican party of Ohio there is no open exhibition of the strife seen in several other States between the Stalwart and anti-Stalwart factions, nor is the Democracy of the State distracted by factional leaders. The temperance question, however, has been hotly contested as a State issue during the campaign, many Republican voters, especially the German-American voters, having become disgusted with the attitude of their party in the State toward it, and taken sides with the Democracy.

In the present Congress Ohio has 15 Republican and 5 Democratic Representatives, and the vote of the State for Governor last year was: FOSTER, Republican, 312,735; BOOKWALTER, Democrat, 288,493; LUDLOW, Prohibitionist, 15,597; SEITZ, Greenbacker, 6,380.

The returns at hand here in the first hour of this morning indicate that yesterday the Democrats carried the State for their State ticket, overcoming the heavy Republican majority of last year, and that in the elections for Congressmen they have gained in an unexpected way.

Effects of the Treasury Surplus.

An overflowing Treasury is a source of extravagance and corruption, besides being a strain upon labor through enormous taxation. Look at five years' figures of revenue:

	Customs	Internal	Total
1878	\$11,710,000	\$11,361,000	\$23,071,000
1879	\$12,240,000	\$11,561,000	\$23,801,000
1880	\$12,240,000	\$11,561,000	\$23,801,000
1881	\$12,240,000	\$11,561,000	\$23,801,000
1882	\$12,240,000	\$11,561,000	\$23,801,000

There are fifteen hundred millions of dollars raised by taxes, which fall mainly on the toilers who earn their bread by the sweat of the brow. Deducting Sundays and holidays, the taxation averages about a million of dollars daily for these five years!

These are appalling figures, and they show a constant and regular increase from 1878 to 1882. In both kinds of taxes there is a great and urgent demand for reduction, the people would freely submit to it, as they did during the civil war. The existing tariff and the internal revenue system were established as war measures. More than half a generation has passed away since the close of the rebellion, and yet these taxes are continued in full rigor, without an attempt at modification.

The necessary consequence of this iniquitous policy is an increasing surplus in the Treasury. In 1881 it exceeded one hundred millions, and in the fiscal year of 1882 more than one hundred and fifty millions. This surplus is the objective point of the Rings, the jobbers, the speculators, and the adventurers, who thronged the corridors of Congress at the last session in anticipation of the feast assured by Republican control of the House of Representatives.

These plunderers had been shut out from the spoils by six years of Democratic ascendancy. They rushed with ravenous appetites to the capital as to a land of promise when they knew that SECON ROBERTS, RUFER, HISCOCK, and PAGE were to handle the reins. They were not disappointed.

The excessive appropriations for the current year, aggregating seventy-eight millions over those for the preceding year, are to be ascribed to the surplus. The River and Harbor bill would never have passed but for the surplus. The jobs in the Navy and other acts are the outcome of this surplus. But for the elections this fall, which had a restraining effect on the candidates for reelection, the bulk of the surplus would have been squandered.

Schemes which will require tens of millions are ready to be launched at the next session, with every prospect of success. Mr. BLAINE and his friends are engaged in a large speculation in both the Virginia and the proposition to assume the State debt, of which MARSH has repudiated more than a third, or about the share assigned to West Virginia, has a political and financial object.

This projected raid on the Treasury will naturally attract the support of all the schemers who infest Washington, as a basis for their jobs, by a log-rolling arrangement like that by which the River and Harbor bill was carried through. A cooperative plan of plunder is always popular with the traffickers in legislation. It brings in votes from both parties, and divides responsibility. The program is to keep the tariff and the internal revenue abundance, because they furnish the surplus by which Rings and robbers flourish and raids on the Treasury are made easy. And while they do this for their own enrichment, the great monopolies are protected in their extortions, and are always ready to contribute large sums of money to retain a majority in Congress that will be subservient to their purposes.

The surplus in the Treasury has, therefore, not only opened the door wide to an organized gang of plunderers, but it has debauched our politics and offered an unlimited premium to corruption. In a moral sense it would be a public blessing to cast every dollar of this vast accumulation into the ocean, if by that sacrifice the Government could be restored to the simplicity and honesty of the fathers of the republic, and frugality again become the wisdom of administration.

The Department of Justice—District.

the charges, is dissatisfied with this action, and makes the proceedings should be directed by the Court before whom the case was tried and by the present District Attorney for the District. This officer is Mr. GEORGE B. CORNHILL. According to some reports, Mr. CORNHILL has always been favorable to the defense in the Star route cases; but it is fair to say that he denies this imputation.

One thing seems certain. If Mr. CORNHILL is to remain District Attorney, the prosecution of the inquiry concerning the alleged attempt to bribe jurors on the Star route trial should be left in his hands. If he cannot safely be entrusted with it, then he ought to be turned out.

The Revised Statutes of the United States prohibit any payments to special counsel, except upon the certificate of the Attorney-General that the services could not have been performed by him, or by the Solicitor-General, or by the officers of the Department of Justice, or by the District Attorney. It is plain that this service can be performed by the District Attorney if he is the right man.

There is no reason why the public moneys should be appropriated to the payment of counsel whose services would be unnecessary if the Government officers did their duty.

Col. George Bliss on the Great River and Harbor Bill.

River and Harbor Congressmen caught short by indignant public opinion in their districts are everywhere offering one or the other of two arguments in defense of the bill. The first argument is that it is not a steal, but a great and beneficent anti-monopoly measure designed to head off the grasping railroad corporations. The second argument is that it is not a steal, because nobody can put his finger on a single item not warranted by the public needs and not based upon the careful estimates and impartial recommendations of the engineers of the War Department.

"Any citizen," said a conspicuous Democratic culprit, the Hon. ARTHUR M. BLISS of Brooklyn, "made upon a Congressman for voting in favor of river and harbor appropriations must fall with equal force upon the Government engineers, gentlemen of high character, holding honorable positions in the service, graduates of West Point, who are supposed to be free from political bias or influence."

Col. GEORGE BLISS of this town, a private citizen gifted with energy and an uncommon clear head, has taken the trouble to go behind the items of the River and Harbor bill passed at the late session. He has examined the record of previous appropriations, the estimates and recommendations of the Government engineers, and the general merits of the works in question. The result of his labors is before us in the shape of a very interesting pamphlet. He utterly demolishes the plea of the jobbing Congressmen who have taken refuge behind the Engineer Corps; and at the same time he knocks the bottom out of the anti-monopoly argument, since the sums of money which he shows to be bestowed or wasted cannot by any possible construction be regarded as an investment in the interests of the people as against the carrying corporations.

Let us look at some of Col. BLISS's discoveries, and at the same time make the personal application which his well-known good nature has led him to avoid:

The harbor at Great Swanton, Vermont, costs \$4,300 this year for the construction of a breakwater 1,900 feet long. Up to now only 200 feet of this wonderful breakwater have been accomplished, and yet it has already cost \$40,000. By the simple rule of three we find that at this rate the completed structure will cost the nation \$1,841,015. That is considerably more than a thousand dollars for every man, woman, and child in the State of Swanton.

For St. Anthony's Falls, near Minneapolis, the Forty-seventh Congress voted \$25,000, although there were no estimates, the improvement having been, in fact, completed. The Congressmen responsible for St. Anthony's Falls is WILLIAM D. WASHINGTON, a Republican. He voted for the River and Harbor bill at every opportunity.

The harbor at Port Clinton, Ohio, costs \$6,000. It has already cost the Government \$40,000, and the estimate for finishing up the job is \$45,000 more. This appropriation is made on the strength of the report of an engineer who submits the amazing fact that in the commercial year ending May 31, 1881, twenty-eight vessels, averaging only thirty tons each, cleared Port Clinton—about one vessel a fortnight! JAMES MORROW, Democrat, a Republican, is responsible for Port Clinton. He voted to pass the bill over the veto.

Vermilion Harbor is another marvelous centre of Ohio commerce. Its "improvement" has already cost the people \$11,946, and its friends call for \$60,000 more. The Deputy Collector reports that in eleven months ending May 31, 1881, not less than nineteen vessels sailed out of Vermilion; while the amount of revenue collected for the Government during the same period was sixteen dollars and a half. The representative of Vermilion in the Forty-seventh Congress is JOHN B. RICE, a Republican and a member of the House of Representatives. He voted for the bill over the veto.

The engineer who reported on the Tallapoosa River, which costs \$15,000, says that "its present commerce is not worth considering." The engineer who reported on the Cahaba River, in Alabama, which costs \$20,000, and will require \$77,000 if the work is carried on, says: "The extent of trade that would be built up can only be conjectured. There are but two settlements on the river." An engineer who surveyed the mouth of the Ocoee River, in Wisconsin, which costs \$15,000, and expects \$115,000, reported that "general commerce and navigation will not be benefited by a harbor at this point." The engineer who reported on Clinch River, Tennessee, thinks that \$14,000, in addition to the \$13,000 already given, would "enable rivermen to bring out cargoes in rafts." The engineer who waded up Duck River, in the same State, hopes that \$25,000 will "secure 25 to 35 feet during a boating season of four to six months."

Still greater curiosities of dishonesty are found on the Jersey coast. Manasquan River has had \$32,000 in past years, and now gets \$7,000, in the face of this report from the engineer sent to investigate:

"One single storm may demolish the whole structure, as it is now a well-known fact that the surge of the ocean has been known to sweep the entire nature and position of the jetty under discussion; in fact, it is claimed that, owing to the instability of the sandy shores, every change of tide affects the structure to a more or less degree. The jetty is in a state of ruin, and the expense of constructing and maintaining such a work will prove enormous to any beneficent result that may be gained there. It is a waste of money, and the only way to prevent the saving of millions of property from destruction is to allow the jetty to remain as it is, and to let the experience of the past will justify such an action."

The representatives of Manasquan in Congress are JOHN HART BUEHLER, a Republican, and MILLS ROSS, a Democrat. They tumbled over each other in their eagerness to get the steal through Congress and over the veto.

The appropriation of money for some of these streams is like throwing dollars into a quicksand. Pearl River, in Mississippi, gets \$17,500 for the prosecution of work that "is not considered permanent," the engineers

say, "because it appears quite certain that the channel opened will be actually filled." The Tchoufouche River, in Louisiana, and the beautiful Tickfaw, are to be scraped out at an expense of \$35,000, with the certainty that they will fill right up again. The Calcasieu River, in the same State, gets \$7,000 for work that is "not considered permanent," although the sanguine engineer adds, "I have no doubt that these were the river made navigable a number of fine farms would be located." And of the mysterious Bayou Terre Bonne the most hopeful account that can be supplied for the jobbers to build upon is this: "Unless the plantation ditches are changed so as to drain into the swamps, the bayou will be for purposes of navigation, deteriorate year by year."

Col. BLISS passes grimly on to certain votes of money to be expended in this State. Here is Wilson harbor, in Niagara county, getting \$10,000 this year on top of \$30,000 in the past, with \$60,000 expected in the future, all in spite of the following report from the Government engineer:

"The harbor is of local importance only; the number of arrivals and departures not averaging one a week during the season of navigation, and these being vessels of not over eighty tons burden."

The representative of Wilson harbor, with his small schooner once a week, is Col. BLISS's friend DICK CHOWLEY, who is not recorded on any of the several votes concerning the River and Harbor bill.

Then we have Oak Orchard harbor, on creek, also emptying into Lake Ontario. That gets \$3,000, but it has had in all \$163,500, and wants \$100,000 more. The engineer says:

"This harbor is of local importance only; one or two vessels a week visiting it during the season of navigation, bringing not more than seventy tons each. It could, however, be made a harbor of refuge for small boats."

Oak Orchard harbor lies within VAN VOORHIS'S vote. The record does not show that VAN VOORHIS'S vote was at any time cast against the steal.

Pultineville harbor, in Wayne county, gets \$4,000. In addition to past favors amounting to \$67,000, notwithstanding this discouraging remark from the engineer:

"The harbor is of local value only; the arrivals and departures not averaging over one a week during the season of navigation, and these being vessels of not over forty tons."

For Pultineville Congressman CAMP is responsible. Nowhere do we find that he voted against the steal.

A little job now for the first time figuring in the annual appropriations is the pretended improvement of Grass River, in St. Lawrence county. An appropriation of \$3,000 is made for digging out this stream, so that "small steamers, drawing three feet of water," may ascend to Massena village through the entire summer. At present the small steamers are compelled to stop four miles short of Massena village for a greater part of the season, sending on their passengers by wagon. It appears that there is a summer hotel at Massena. The reporting engineer is an ingenious man. He says:

"As to the commercial interest to be benefited by the proposed work I think there is no question. Massena is the centre of a wealthy country, and at a summer resort it is one of the most popular in the State."

The representative of this precious stream is ABRAHAM X. PARKER, a Republican, a thoughtful friend of tavern keepers and the unblushing advocate of River and Harbor jobs of all sizes.

Another queer case is the appropriation of \$15,000 for New Rochelle harbor and \$4,000 for Echo harbor. The engineer's report explains that the "very limited trade by water with New Rochelle is carried to Echo harbor. That accounts for the \$3,000 and the additional \$19,935 that is asked. But if Echo harbor accommodates the very limited commerce of New Rochelle, why should New Rochelle harbor have \$15,000, and want \$20,825 more? The answer may be found in this extraordinary paragraph from the engineer's report:

"The improvement indicated by the present survey refers to that part of New Rochelle harbor contiguous to Glen and Flat islands, upon which buildings adapted to the purpose of a summer resort have been erected. The improvement is in the nature of a breakwater, and is intended to protect the buildings from the waves of the sea, and to provide a place of refuge for the boats of the summer resort. The improvement is of great value to the community, and it is recommended that the appropriation of \$15,000 be made for the purpose of completing the breakwater, and of providing a place of refuge for the boats of the summer resort."

Perhaps the most astonishing discovery made by Col. BLISS in the course of his researches is that the Forty-seventh Congress has actually voted \$10,000 for the improvement of a channel in Canada. This is the East Neeshib channel, between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. The engineers say:

"Several years ago the Canadian Government had been denuding the channel through rapids. This channel is now a well-known fact that the surge of the ocean has been known to sweep the entire nature and position of the jetty under discussion; in fact, it is claimed that, owing to the instability of the sandy shores, every change of tide affects the structure to a more or less degree. The jetty is in a state of ruin, and the expense of constructing and maintaining such a work will prove enormous to any beneficent result that may be gained there. It is a waste of money, and the only way to prevent the saving of millions of property from destruction is to allow the jetty to remain as it is, and to let the experience of the past will justify such an action."

And so our River and Harbor Congressmen vote \$10,000 for the prosecution of work in Canadian waters—work, as it appears, only just now abandoned by the Canadian Government, because they have discovered that the American channel was better! Could the blind recklessness of chukcheled dishonesty go further?

The other BLISS—the River and Harbor BLISS of Brooklyn, whom we quote as a type of his species—said a few days ago:

"The new work provided for in the bill only costs for the expenditure of \$600,000, an amount not at all proportionate to the increase of population and wealth." An explanation by River and Harbor BLISS of his mathematics is now in order. Col. GEORGE BLISS counts 49 new jobs for which an appropriation is for the first time made. Of these 49 new items show that \$3,425,000 in regard to the remaining 28 items. They will certainly carry the aggregate expenditure on the 49 new jobs up to \$15,000,000, and very likely to \$20,000,000.

Well, now for grand totals. Leaving out of consideration the item of \$4,125,000 for the Mississippi River—an exceptional appropriation which THE SUN holds to be quite as indefensible as the smaller jobs, although for different reasons—the bill gives \$14,620,000 in regard to the remaining 28 items. They will certainly carry the aggregate expenditure on the 49 new jobs up to \$15,000,000, and very likely to \$20,000,000.

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In the Broodingianian swindle which President ARTHUR vetoed, and which the Forty-seventh Congress passed over his veto, is from \$90,000,000 to \$100,000,000.

Squarely put, the River and Harbor bill of 1882 is a hundred million dollar steal—a steal that will extract ten dollars on the average from the pocket of every individual voter and taxpayer in the United States. How do the people like that sort of legislation? Whether Republicans or Democrats, it will pay to keep these trading, jobbing, log-rolling, dishonest, traitorous River and Harbor Congressmen at home.

They Should All Be Smashed!

A valued citizen of central New York appeals to us to send a word to Mr. HENRY S. HARRIS of the Fourth Congress district of New Jersey, on the ground that he is "a good fellow."

We are sorry to say that this is a very insufficient reason for supporting a candidate for Congress who is tarred all over with the tar of the River and Harbor steal. The circumstance that he is a good fellow and an intelligent man makes his offense the more heinous, and his punishment should be more exemplary. A professional scamp caught in dishonest ways is much less pernicious than a man of respectable appearance and wholesome reputation.

Our advice to every citizen of the Fourth New York district remains the same: it has been for the last three months. Let every man do everything in his power to beat HENRY S. HARRIS!

After searching far and near, the Republican State Committee have at last found a substitute for Mr. HARRIS as candidate for Congressman at Large. Yet we do not think that Mr. CANNOLL will beat GEORGE BLISS.

In his speech announcing his withdrawal from the New York and Brooklyn Association of Congregational Churches, yesterday, HENRY WAND BEECHER tried to explain the state of his religious belief, or lack of belief. It is almost impossible to read his explanation without being amazed, amused, and repelled.

He is a minister of the Gospel, a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world. He is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world. He is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world.

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FOLGER AND ARTHUR IN THE SARATOGA CONVENTION.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—It is well authenticated that Judge Folger has seriously complained that after he had yielded to his wish to become a candidate, Gen. Arthur did not come forward with an effort to give him a majority in the Convention as would have given moral weight to his action and left no doubt of his being the popular choice.

Folger desired the nomination as much as Arthur desired him to have it. Their reasons for running in contrary directions. Folger believed the nomination would be an election, and that an election would be a stepping stone to further advancement. In the latter idea it is not probable Arthur shared. The obvious lack of heartiness which was shown by the Administration was perfectly consistent with a want of sympathy with Folger's idea of the future.

It was not until the day before the Saratoga Convention that determined efforts were put forth for Folger—after Arthur went to New York, and when he found that Folger's case was dubious. Stalwart politicians were telegraphed to come to New York in haste and help nominate Folger. Otherwise he would have been left to his fate.

The Judge had an idea that he was going through the Convention on a high wave of popular favor. His disappointment was great. His complaint that he was not supported with zeal is well grounded.

After the nomination, Arthur felt the necessity of doing something to save the case. The ulterior reasons all existed, and still exist. One of Arthur's closest friends told him he had committed a great blunder. He should have seen to it, as he could have done, that Folger had a majority so great as would have prevented all cavil, or else had nothing to do with the business, which would have taken Folger out of the field.

It was a bad job, explainable by the cross purposes concerning Folger's candidacy. He reached too far. Arthur put his shoulder under too little. The Judge may not reach the stepping stone which was to serve him so well. Arthur may realize that he has failed. In the Treasury Department which he desires so much.

The President's Age and Weight.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Please let me know the age and weight of President Arthur. A True Friend.

President Arthur ate a birthday cake last on Oct. 5, while on his vacation at Alexandria Bay. He was 52 years old. We believe he was weighed about at the time, but the record has never been made public. We should say that he weighed about 250 pounds.

The Temptations of Clergymen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: While I do not think it right to say that the Rev. Mr. Beecher is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world, it is a fact that he is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world. He is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world. He is a man of high standing in the church, and a man of high standing in the world.

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